AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Canceled).

2 (Currently Amended). The method ~~compound~~ of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound is ~~comprising~~ 12 to 50 nucleobases in length.

3 (Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim 2, wherein said compound is ~~comprising~~ 15 to 30 nucleobases in length.

4 (Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound comprises ~~comprising~~ an oligonucleotide.

5 (Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim 4, wherein said compound comprises ~~comprising~~ an antisense oligonucleotide.

6 (Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim 4, wherein said compound comprises ~~comprising~~ a DNA oligonucleotide.

7(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim 4, wherein said compound comprises ~~comprising~~ an RNA oligonucleotide.

8(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim 4, wherein said compound comprises ~~comprising~~ a chimeric oligonucleotide.

9(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim 4 wherein at least a portion of said compound hybridizes with RNA to form an oligonucleotide-RNA duplex.

10(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least 80% complementarity with said nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

11(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least 90% complementarity with said nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

12(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least 95% complementarity with said nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

13(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least 99%

complementarity with said nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

14(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least one modified internucleoside linkage, sugar moiety, or nucleobase.

15(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least one 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

16(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least one phosphorothioate internucleoside linkage.

17(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound has ~~having~~ at least one 5-methylcytosine.

18(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound ~~that~~ preferentially binds to a nucleic acid sequence of apolipoprotein(a) and does not bind, or binds weakly to a nucleic acid sequence encoding plasminogen.

19(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 45.

20(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound comprises an antisense nucleic acid molecule that is specifically hybridizable with a 5'-untranslated region (5'UTR) of a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

21(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound comprises an antisense nucleic acid molecule that is specifically hybridizable with a start region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

22(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound comprises an antisense nucleic acid molecule that is specifically hybridizable with a coding region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a)..

23(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound comprises an antisense nucleic acid molecule that is specifically hybridizable with a stop region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

24(Currently Amended). The ~~compound~~ method of claim ~~1~~ 25, wherein said compound comprises an antisense nucleic acid molecule that is specifically hybridizable with a 3'-

untranslated region of a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a).

25(Currently Amended). A method of inhibiting the expression of apolipoprotein(a) in a cell or tissue comprising contacting said cell or tissue with ~~the~~ a compound ~~of claim 1~~ 8 to 80 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a), wherein said compound is at least 70% complementary to said nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a), and wherein said compound inhibits the expression of apolipoprotein(a) mRNA by at least 10% ~~so that expression of apolipoprotein(a) is inhibited~~.

26-29 (Canceled).

30(Currently Amended). A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with apolipoprotein(a) comprising administering to said animal a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of ~~the~~ compound 8 to 80 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a), wherein said compound is at least 70% complementary to said nucleic acid molecule encoding apolipoprotein(a), and wherein said compound inhibits the expression of apolipoprotein(a) mRNA by at least 10% ~~of claim 1 so that expression of apolipoprotein(a) is inhibited~~.

31(Canceled).

32(Currently Amended). The method of claim ~~24~~ 30, wherein the disease or condition is a cardiovascular disorder, atherosclerosis, hypercholesterolimia, coronary artery disease or any combination thereof.

33(Original). A method of inhibiting the expression of apolipoprotein(a) comprising contacting a biological system expressing human apolipoprotein(a) with a synthetic antisense compound, wherein said synthetic antisense compound comprises from 15 to 30 nucleobases in length and has at least 3 mismatches to human plasminogen.

34(Original). The method of claim 33 wherein the biological system is a human.

35(Original). The method of claim 33 wherein the biological system is a transgenic animal.